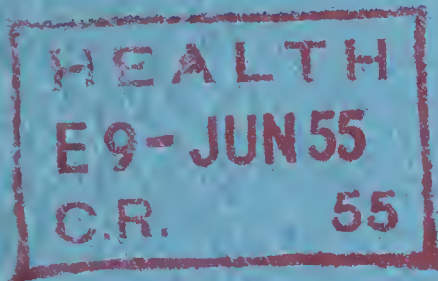


Library



Urban District Council of Rishton

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING DETAILS OF WORK

DONE BY THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE DISTRICT OF RISHTON FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954

Medical Officer of Health—
Dr. R. C. WEBSTER,
19, St. James Street,
ACCRINGTON.
Tel. Accrington 4223.

Sanitary Inspector—
S. PILKINGTON, Esq.,
Council Offices,
Brook Street,
RISHTON,
Nr. Blackburn.
Tel. Gt. Harwood 2264.



Urban District Council of Rishton

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING DETAILS OF WORK

DONE BY THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE DISTRICT OF RISHTON FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954

Medical Officer of Health—

Dr. R. C. WEBSTER,

19, St. James Street,

ACCRINGTON.

Tel. Accrington 4223.

Sanitary Inspector—

S. PILKINGTON, Esq.,

Council Offices,

Brook Street,

RISHTON,

Nr. Blackburn.

Tel. Gt. Harwood 2264.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30036999>

Council Offices,

Rishton.

May, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members OF THE Urban District Council of Rishton

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of Rishton for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	2,878.4
Rateable Value	£34,644 ¹
Estimated Product of 1d. Rate	£132
Population 1951 Census	5,794
Estimated 1953 Mid-year Population	5,660
Estimated 1954 Mid-year Population	5,630

Rishton is a compact Urban area whose chief industries are cotton, felt and carpet weaving, and paper making.

VITAL STATISTICS

Death Rate (crude)	14.4
Death Rate (adjusted)	13.4
Death Rate—England and Wales	11.3
Live Birth Rate (crude)	9.4 ¹
Live Birth Rate (adjusted)	10.6
Live Birth Rate—England and Wales	15.2
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births	36
Maternity Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	19
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	19

There were 53 live births and two stillbirths registered during 1954, and 81 deaths from all causes. The birth rate has taken a tumble from 12.3 to 10.6, and the death rate has risen from 11.3 to 13.4. The average age at death was 68.3 years, an increase of 1.5 over last year's figure ; 48 per cent. of deaths took place at the age of 70 or over and 25 per cent. at the age of 80 or over.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

As will be seen from the tables at the end of the report, the incidence of Infectious Diseases was again reduced, 41 cases this year as against 63 in 1953. One case of Food Poisoning was notified, but on investigation it was found to be impossible to trace the origin.

Diphtheria has again been absent from the list of notified diseases. It is to be hoped that this trend continues, and it is in the hands of parents to ensure that it does, by taking advantage of the immunisation against the disease offered to their children.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Local Health and Welfare Services under the National Health and Assistance Acts are administered in Rishton by the Lancashire County Council Number 5 Health Division.

Miss E. Singleton is the Health Visitor/School Nurse for the Rishton District, and the following are the services administered at the Child Welfare and School Clinic, 108, High Street, Rishton. Telephone No. Great Harwood 3177.

1. Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month (morning).
2. Child Welfare Clinic Each Tuesday afternoon.
3. Minor Ailment Clinic Each Monday and Friday morning.
4. Immunisation Clinic As and when arranged.
5. Orthopædic Clinic Fourth Wednesday each month.
6. Ophthalmic Clinic 1st and 3rd Thursday (afternoon).
7. Dental Clinic Every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (all day).
8. Speech Therapy By appointment.
9. Physiotherapy Every Wednesday (all day).

Wherever possible appointments should be made before clinics are attended, although the Dental Officer will attend to cases of toothache without appointment.

The County Midwife for Rishton is Mrs. J. Rawcliffe, of 22, Spring Street, Rishton.

The County District Nurse for the district is Mrs. E. Clarke, of 132, High Street, Rishton. Tel. Great Harwood 2055.

To obtain the Ambulance Service ring—Accrington 4780.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954

	Total	Males	Females
Live Births—Legitimate	52	28	24
Live Births—Illegitimate	1	1	—
TOTALS	53	29	24
Stillbirths	2	2	—
Deaths	81	47	34

POPULATION FIGURES OVER THE LAST 9 YEARS

	Registrar General's Estimated Figure	Births	Deaths	Births & Deaths Differential
1954	5,630	53	81	— 28
1953	5,660	67	71	-- 4
1952	5,741	59	86	— 27
1951 (Census)	5,794	70	91	— 21
1950	5,926	81	93	— 12
1949	5,832	90	87	+ 3
1948	5,644	84	72	+ 12
1947	5,467	118	87	+ 31
1946	5,405	92	87	+ 5

SUMMARY CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms (stomach)	3	2	5
Malignant Neoplasms (lungs)	4	—	4
Malignant Neoplasms (breast)	—	2	2
Malignant Neoplasms (other)	2	1	3
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	7	7	14
Coronary Disease—Angina	8	2	10
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	—	1
Other Heart Diseases	1	8	9
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	—	3
Pneumonia	2	—	2
Bronchitis	5	—	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—	1
Ulcer of Stomach Duodenum	3	2	5
Nephritis	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	8	12
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—	1
TOTALS	47	34	81

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1954

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
2- 5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
5-10	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
25-35	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45-55	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55-65	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
	3	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
TOTAL	3		2		1		0	
Figures for 1953	7		0		2		0	

PUBLIC HEALTH TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930

Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register on the 31st December, 1954 :

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
22	17	39	7	8	15	29	25	54

As compared with the figures at the 31st December, 1953 :

M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
20	17	37	5	8	13	25	25	50

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Notifiable Disease	Total Cases all ages	0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	25	1	8	11	5	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	14	3	1	1	2	1	—	1	5	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total cases in each age group	41	4	9	12	8	2	—	1	5	—

Infectious Diseases Notified over last 5 years

Disease	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Scarlet Fever	—	3	2	3	1
Measles	6	133	118	8	—
Whooping Cough	25	28	3	40	25
Pneumonia	8	17	5	7	14
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas	3	—	2	3	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery	34	—	—	—	—
	76	181	130	63	41

Yours faithfully,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,
Brook Street,
Rishton.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ending 31st December, 1954

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1954. This year has seen a maintenance of the salvage scheme with a much steadier market. This has had a reflection in the amount collected.

During the year meat was de-controlled, which led to the opening of the Abattoir in Spring Street, by a private individual. Unfortunately, this has meant working irregular hours to provide a service to the public in a wider sphere than our own local authority, and with the legislation as it is at the present time it is very difficult to control in any way the hours of slaughtering.

I am grateful to the Officials and Staff for the help I have received, and to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their encouragement and consideration.

Yours faithfully,
S. PILKINGTON,
Sanitary Inspector.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Water Supply

Samples of the water supply to the area have been taken with the following results :

Treated water—46 samples taken. 3 unsatisfactory.

The unsatisfactory samples occurred during periods of heavy rainfall.

During the year work progressed in the supplying of additional water from a neighbouring authority. This work should shortly be completed and another step will have been taken in providing an adequate supply of water. A step taken for the provision of an improved supply as regards taste and cleanliness was the introduction of a modern chlorine induction plant, but the faults in this direction have not yet been completely eradicated.

Drainage

A feature of the drainage work has been the increased demand for conversion grants. Unfortunately, the grants had to be temporarily suspended during the year. In the past, misunderstandings have arisen with regard to the method of applying for the grants. Application should be made to the Council on a form provided, but no work should be carried out until authority to proceed is received from the Council.

Public Cleansing Service

Difficulty has been experienced in maintaining a full complement of workmen required for the efficient running of the department. The branch of work that has been hit the hardest is road sweeping, and to keep a complement of two road sweepers is becoming increasingly difficult.

Notwithstanding the above difficulties, it is pleasing to report that this year has seen an increase in the quantity of salvage collected to make it the record year as regards quantity. Whilst the price has not risen to the dizzy heights of the past, it has remained much steadier, and I am sure that a steady market for the waste paper will result in still higher collection.

The Karrier Bantam which entered service in November, 1946, is nearing the end of its economic usefulness as a refuse collector.

SALVAGE

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
January	5	15	2	30	15	8
February	5	9	—	32	14	8
March	4	2	1	25	14	2
April	4	4	—	26	5	1
May	5	3	—	32	3	9
June	8	9	—	52	16	4
July	3	2	—	19	7	6
August	6	11	3	41	3	6
September	8	8	3	52	14	8
October	5	15	—	35	18	9
November	4	19	3	33	13	10
December	5	8	3	36	14	2
	<hr/> 67	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 3	<hr/> £420	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 1

Ferrous Metals	19	0	8
Rags	9	0	0
Non-ferrous Metals	31	17	3
	<hr/> £59	<hr/> 17	<hr/> 11

Receipts for trade tipping £47 15 0

RODENT CONTROL

During the year a new part-time rodent operator commenced duties, taking the place of the previous operator, who unfortunately moved out of the district. The control of infested areas such as the Tip, Sewage Works, etc., has continued with periodical treatments. In order to encourage the notification of rodent infestations the Council provide a free disinfestation service to all dwelling houses. The calls on this service have greatly reduced during the last twelve months.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MEAT INSPECTION

From the 4th July, 1954

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	81	255	5	1073	291
Number inspected	81	255	5	1073	291

Record of Meat Unfit for Human Consumption

All diseases except Tuberculosis

Whole carcasses condemn'd	—	2	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	31	141	—	359	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	38%	55%	—	32.5%	1.5%

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemn'd	—	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	15	122	—	—	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	18%	48%	—	—	3%

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION

Cattle	Tuberculosis	Heads (57) Lungs (114) Diaphragms (2) Livers (11) Stomachs (9) Spleens (2) Kidneys (1) Intestines (20) Udders (2)
Pigs	Tuberculosis	Heads (8) Lungs (3) Intestines (1)

Cattle	Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	Lungs (1)
Pig	Pneumonia	.....	.....	.....	.....	Lungs (1)
Cattle	Actinomycosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Lungs (1) Heads (3)
Cattle	Distomatosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Livers (114)
Sheep	Distomatosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Livers (246)
Cattle	Distomatosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Lungs (1)
Cattle	Cirrhosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Livers (13)
Cattle	Angioma	.....	.....	.....	.....	Livers (2)
Cattle	Parasitic	.....	.....	.....	.....	Livers (1)
Pigs	Parasitic	.....	.....	.....	.....	Livers (1)
Sheep	Parasitic	.....	.....	.....	.....	Lungs (8)
Cattle	Abcess	.....	.....	.....	.....	Livers (12) Intestines (1)
Fig	Abcess	.....	.....	.....	.....	Liver (1)
Cattle	Mastitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Udders (9)
Cattle	Nephritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Kidneys (3)
Sheep	Melanosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Liver (1)
Cattle	Peritonitis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Diaphragms (6) Livers (3) Stomachs (7) Spleens (12) Intestines (6)
Cattle	Pericarditis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Hearts (4)
Cattle	Pleurisy	.....	.....	.....	.....	Lungs (4) Diaphragms (1)
Cattle	Pyelonephritis	.....	.....	.....	.....	Kidneys (1)

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Total weight condemned	4	—	2	2

A considerable amount of overtime has been worked during the year. a total of 114 hours in all, the majority being Sunday work. It is to be hoped that the slaughtering will be so arranged that this amount of overtime will be considerably reduced, and, bearing in mind the number of animals slaughtered, it should be quite easy for overtime to be abolished altogether.

I have to thank neighbouring Authorities and their Inspectors for assistance in maintaining 100% meat inspection by their willingness to carry out meat inspection during my absence from work due to sickness or holidays.

OTHER FOODS

Sixteen samples of milk were taken during the year and proved to be satisfactory from the point of view of cleanliness.

One case of Anthrax was reported and all precautions were taken, but the investigation proved negative.

Unsound Food

The following foodstuffs have been rejected during the year as being unfit for human consumption :

Ox Tongue	4 tins	24lbs.
Beef .....	.....	351lbs.
Steak Pudding	1 tin	1lb.
Peas	3 tins	3lbs.
Sliced Peaches	1 tin	2lbs.
Salmon	4 tins	4lbs.
Apricots	2 tins	2lbs.
Pineapples	1 tin	1lb.

HOUSING INSPECTION

Houses inspected for housing defects	54
Number of inspections made for the purpose	149
Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
Number of dwelling houses found not in all respects fit for human habitation	53
Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after informal action	47
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notice was served	Nil
Number made fit by owners after service of formal notice	Nil
Certificates of Unfitness applied for	4
Certificates of Unfitness granted	3
Certificates of Revocation applied for	1
Certificates of Revocation granted	1

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Part I of the Act

1.—Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

	Number on Register		Inspec- tions		Written notices		Occupiers prose- cuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities...	10	...	14	...	—	...	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	22	...	27	...	—	...	—
(3) Other premises in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-wor- kers' premises)	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
Total	32	...	41	...	—	...	—

No defects were found at the time of inspection.

